

### **In the Claims**

Please amend claims 5, 8, and 10 as follows:

5. **(Amended)** A cable trough comprising:

a cable pathway structure including a bottom portion and two upstanding sides extending from the bottom portion to define a cable pathway, the cable pathway structure further including a first open end, a second opposite open end, and a central portion disposed therebetween, the first and second opposite open ends each defining a mating U-shaped trough section configured to mate with other horizontal trough sections;

a component support flange extending from one of the upstanding sides; and  
an optical fiber cable component mounted to the component support flange.

8. **(Amended)** A cable trough comprising:

a cable pathway structure including a bottom portion and two upstanding sides extending from the bottom portion to define a cable pathway, the cable pathway structure including a first open end, a second opposite open end, and a central portion disposed therebetween, the first and second opposite open ends each defining a mating U-shaped trough section configured to mate with other horizontal trough sections; and

component support means positioned within the cable pathway for holding an optical fiber component.

10. **(Amended)** A cable trough comprising:

a cable pathway structure including a bottom portion and upstanding sides extending from the bottom portion to define a cable pathway, the cable pathway structure including a first open end, a second open end, and a central portion disposed therebetween, the first and second open ends each defining a mating U-shaped trough section configured to mate with other horizontal trough sections;

a component support holder positioned in the cable pathway and extending transversely to the cable pathway; and

a plurality of cable components mounted to the component support holder,  
wherein the cable components are selected from a group consisting of connectors,  
adapters, splitters/combiners, attenuators, splicings, switches, wave division multiplexers,  
and amplifiers, the cable components defining an array extending transversely to the  
cable pathway.